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| APPLICATION NO. | FILING DATE | FIRST NAMED INVENTOR | ATTORNEY DOCKET NO. | CONFIRMATION NO. |
|-----------------|-------------|----------------------|---------------------|------------------|
| 10/044,116 | 10/19/2001 | Yi-Ming Liao | 21548-1/2322P | 8132 |

7590 06/11/2004

SAWYER LAW GROUP LLP
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| EXAMINER |
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GART, MATTHEW S

| ART UNIT | PAPER NUMBER |
|----------|--------------|
| | 3625 |

DATE MAILED: 06/11/2004

Please find below and/or attached an Office communication concerning this application or proceeding.

| | | |
|------------------------------|------------------------|---------------------|
| Office Action Summary | Application No. | Applicant(s) |
| | 10/044,116 | LIAO ET AL. |
| | Examiner | Art Unit |
| | Matthew S Gart | 3625 |

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address --

Period for Reply

A SHORTENED STATUTORY PERIOD FOR REPLY IS SET TO EXPIRE 3 MONTH(S) FROM THE MAILING DATE OF THIS COMMUNICATION.

- Extensions of time may be available under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a). In no event, however, may a reply be timely filed after SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- If the period for reply specified above is less than thirty (30) days, a reply within the statutory minimum of thirty (30) days will be considered timely.
- If NO period for reply is specified above, the maximum statutory period will apply and will expire SIX (6) MONTHS from the mailing date of this communication.
- Failure to reply within the set or extended period for reply will, by statute, cause the application to become ABANDONED (35 U.S.C. § 133). Any reply received by the Office later than three months after the mailing date of this communication, even if timely filed, may reduce any earned patent term adjustment. See 37 CFR 1.704(b).

Status

- 1) Responsive to communication(s) filed on ____.
- 2a) This action is FINAL. 2b) This action is non-final.
- 3) Since this application is in condition for allowance except for formal matters, prosecution as to the merits is closed in accordance with the practice under *Ex parte Quayle*, 1935 C.D. 11, 453 O.G. 213.

Disposition of Claims

- 4) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are pending in the application.
 - 4a) Of the above claim(s) _____ is/are withdrawn from consideration.
- 5) Claim(s) _____ is/are allowed.
- 6) Claim(s) 1-12 is/are rejected.
- 7) Claim(s) _____ is/are objected to.
- 8) Claim(s) _____ are subject to restriction and/or election requirement.

Application Papers

- 9) The specification is objected to by the Examiner.
- 10) The drawing(s) filed on 19 October 2001 is/are: a) accepted or b) objected to by the Examiner.
Applicant may not request that any objection to the drawing(s) be held in abeyance. See 37 CFR 1.85(a).
Replacement drawing sheet(s) including the correction is required if the drawing(s) is objected to. See 37 CFR 1.121(d).
- 11) The oath or declaration is objected to by the Examiner. Note the attached Office Action or form PTO-152.

Priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119

- 12) Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) All b) Some * c) None of:
 1. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this National Stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).

* See the attached detailed Office action for a list of the certified copies not received.

Attachment(s)

- 1) Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
- 2) Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
- 3) Information Disclosure Statement(s) (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 4) Interview Summary (PTO-413)
Paper No(s)/Mail Date _____.
- 5) Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
- 6) Other: _____.

DETAILED ACTION

Priority

Acknowledgment is made of applicant's claim for foreign priority based on an application filed in Taiwan on 9/21/2001. It is noted, however, that applicant has not filed a certified copy of the TAIWAN 90122544 application as required by 35 U.S.C. 119(b).

Claim Rejections - 35 USC § 102

The following is a quotation of the appropriate paragraphs of 35 U.S.C. 102 that form the basis for the rejections under this section made in this Office action:

A person shall be entitled to a patent unless –

(e) the invention was described in (1) an application for patent, published under section 122(b), by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent or (2) a patent granted on an application for patent by another filed in the United States before the invention by the applicant for patent, except that an international application filed under the treaty defined in section 351(a) shall have the effects for purposes of this subsection of an application filed in the United States only if the international application designated the United States and was published under Article 21(2) of such treaty in the English language.

Claims 1-12 are rejected under 35 U.S.C. 102(e) as being anticipated by

Hanzek U.S. Patent No. 6,654,726.

Referring to claim 1. Hanzek discloses a purchase order tracking method for use by a manufacturer to allow a customer issuing an electronic purchase order to the manufacturer to track the progress of purchase order manipulation by the manufacturer; the method comprising the steps of:

- (a) Receiving the electronic purchase order (Figure 1);

- (b) Establishing a purchase order manipulation progress report for the received electronic purchase order (column 12, line 30 to column 13, line 18);
- (c) Recording related data into the purchase order manipulation progress report at the completion of each stage of the progress of purchase order manipulation by the manufacturer (column 12, line 30 to column 13, line 18); and
- (d) Downloading the purchase order manipulation progress report into a network linked database linked to a network server linked to a network system, so as to allow the customer to gain access to the purchase order manipulation progress report by linking via the network system to the network server and view the contents of the purchase order manipulation progress report through a browser program (column 12, line 30 to column 13, line 18).

Referring to claim 2. Hanzek further discloses a purchase order tracking method wherein an EDI platform is used to receive the electronic purchase order (column 16, lines 40-51).

Referring to claim 3. Hanzek further discloses a purchase order tracking method wherein the network system is Internet (column 3, lines 15-19).

Referring to claim 4. Hanzek further discloses a purchase order tracking method wherein the network server is a Web server (Figure 2).

Referring to claim 5. Hanzek further discloses a purchase order tracking method wherein in said step the browser program is Microsoft Internet Explorer (column 7, line 46 to column 8, line 5).

Referring to claim 6. Hanzek further discloses a purchase order tracking method wherein the browser program is Netscape Navigator (column 7, line 46 to column 8, line 5).

Referring to claims 7-9. Claims 7-9 are rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 1-6.

Referring to claim 10-12. Claims 10-12 are rejected under the same rationale as set forth above in claims 1-6.

Conclusion

The prior art made of record and not relied upon is considered pertinent to applicant's disclosure.

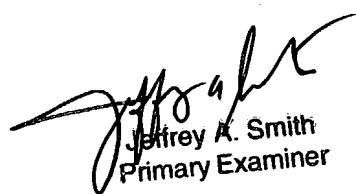
Ahluwalia, U.S. Patent No. 6,728,685, April 27, 2004, discloses a communication schema of online reporting system and method related to online orders for consumer products having specific configurations.

Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Matthew S Gart whose telephone number is 703-305-5355. The examiner can normally be reached on 8:30AM to 5:00PM m-f.

If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, Wynn Coggins can be reached on 703-308-1344. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

MSG
June 4, 2004



Jeffrey A. Smith
Primary Examiner